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copy to Navy JAG - Capt R.C. Smith

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JAN 24 11 12 AM '70

FROM : Department of State

DATE:

SUBJECT : USS Liberty claims

REF : Tel Aviv A-630

When the Embassy discussed the claim for damage to the USS Liberty with Mr. Elizur in early December he promised to raise the matter within the Ministry and communicate later with the Embassy. In view of the lack of response since that time, the Embassy is requested to remind Mr. Elizur that we are still awaiting a reply to our note of July 3, 1968. !!

In keeping with our policy of keeping the Government of Israel fully informed on matters relating to the ship claim, the Embassy should inform Mr. Elizur that it is anticipated that the USS Liberty class ships will be scrapped in the near future. This does not alter the Israeli legal obligation to pay compensation for the damage as measured at the time of damage. FYI We recognize that the Government of Israel will probably attempt ~~to paint this as a gesture~~ to assert the scrapping of this class of vessels as a basis for reducing the compensation to be paid. END FYI

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR ROGERS

REVIEWED BY Wm Kelley DATE 1/24/85

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Navy OP Nav 432 - Capt. Hannen (draft)
Navy JAG - Capt. R. G. Smith (draft)
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